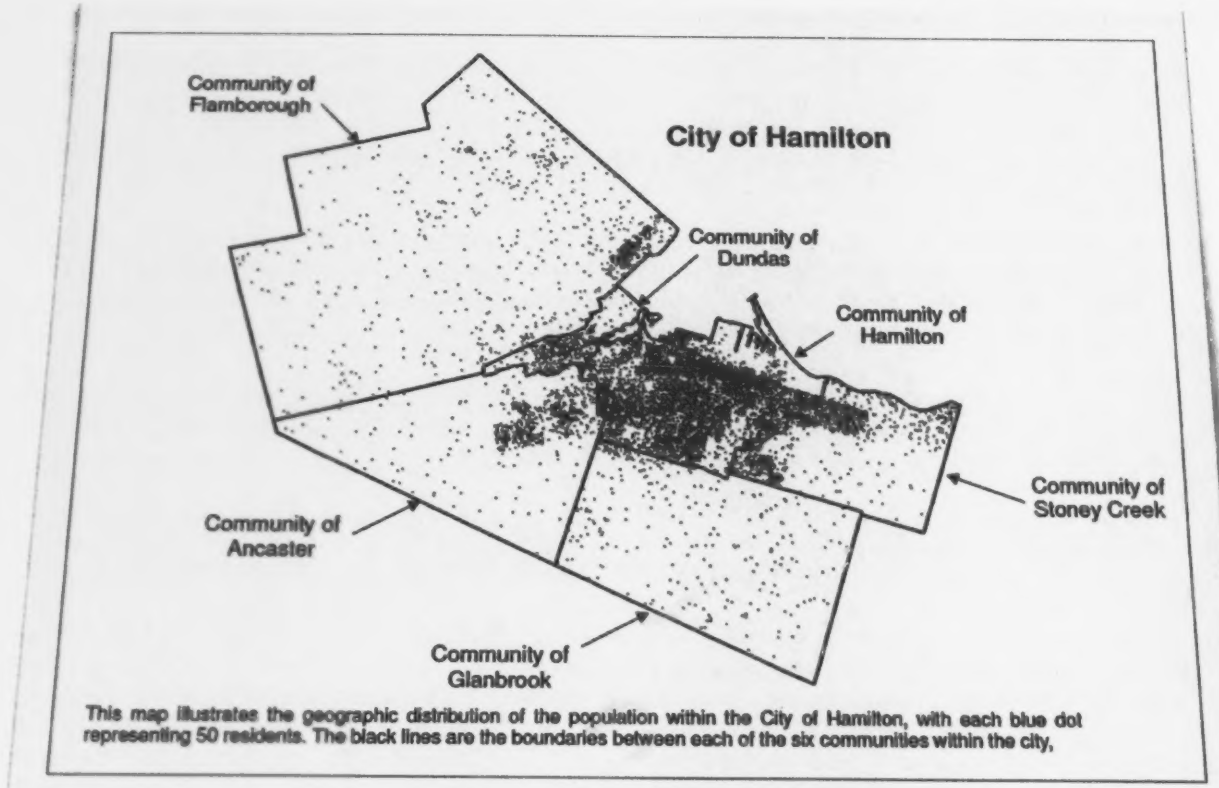
United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton

Summary Community Profiles

SPRC Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton



This map illustrates the geographic distribution of the population within the City of Hamilton, with each blue dot representing 50 residents. The black lines are the boundaries between each of the six communities within the city.

November 2008

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To read the full Community Profiles please visit:
http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles

INTRODUCTION

On January 1 2001, the six municipalities of the Hamilton-Wentworth Region (Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Glanbrook, Hamilton, and Stoney Creek) were amalgamated into the new City of Hamilton. The former municipalities continue to hold their unique character, population and geography and are now official Communities within the City of Hamilton. The City of Hamilton now has a population of over 504,000 people, and covers a vast and diverse geographical area – from rural Flamborough to the urban centre of the former municipality of Hamilton. There is also diversity among the people who live in the City of Hamilton. A growing population, increased immigration, growing numbers of seniors and a range of incomes – from rich to very poor characterize some of the differences that exist across the new city.

These Community Profiles have been developed to aid in understanding the unique social characteristics important to, yet distinct about, each community within the City of Hamilton. This series of reports will look at a number of demographic variables across each community within the City of Hamilton. The information provided can be used by community members to identify actions that might be taken to respond to changing conditions and to continue to improve city life.

(For clarity, in this report the entire City of Hamilton will always be referred by its full name. References to Hamilton will indicate the former municipality of Hamilton, now officially the Community of Hamilton within the City of Hamilton. Please see the front cover for the boundaries of all the communities within the City of Hamilton.)

These Summary Community Profiles give quick overviews of the key findings from the full Community Profiles. The information provided is primarily based on the 2006 Census of Canada (Statistics Canada), with additional data from the 1996 and 2001 Censuses used as points of comparison.

The full Community Profile (available on our website at http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles) contain additional information, including detailed maps for key indicators in each community as well as information on the investments made in each community by the United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton.

We would like to thank the United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton for its continued support of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and for commissioning this report. In particular, we are grateful for the aid of Monica Quinlan in the preparation of this report.

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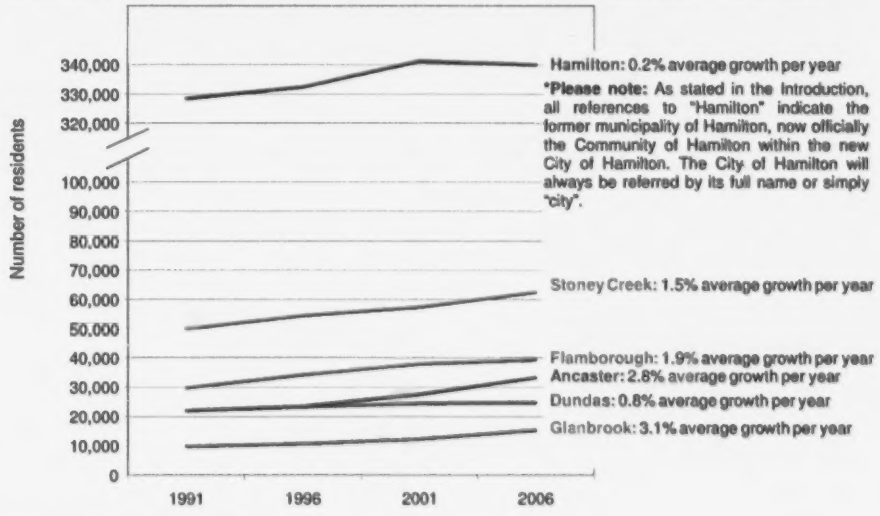
Ancaster

Population Growth, Children and Seniors

- Ancaster is the fastest growing community in the city, with an average growth rate of 2.8% per year – more than double the rate for Ontario (1.3%). The period from 2001-2006 showed the fastest growth with an almost 4% increase in population per year.
- Ancaster's population of very young is the fastest growing in Hamilton, which is one reason for the high growth rate. In fact, all age groups in Ancaster are experiencing higher growth than for the same age groups on average across the City of Hamilton.
- However, it is the oldest senior age group (85 and above) that is growing most quickly of all the age categories in Ancaster. This is due in part to an influx of older seniors to recently built long term care residences.
- Seniors living alone (which does not include those living institutionally or in seniors' residences) are also a growing population, standing at 800 people in 2006.

Population Growth, Communities with the City of Hamilton, 1991-2006



Female Lone Parents

- The number of families led by female lone parents has almost doubled from 1996-2006 to almost 750 families. If the growth continues, the next census in 2011 will show that Ancaster has the third highest population of single moms in the City of Hamilton (compared to 1996 when it was tied for last place in this category).

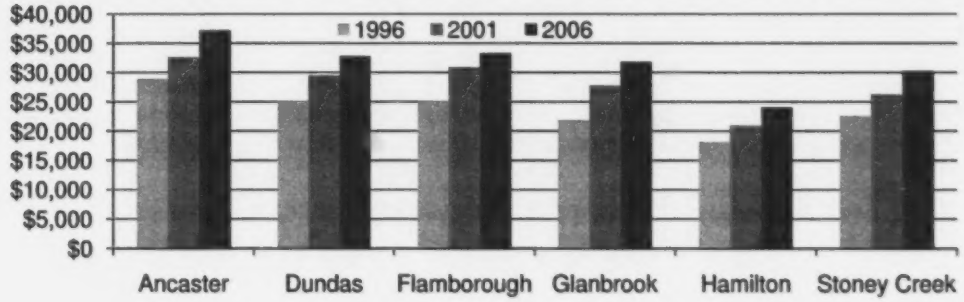
Immigrants and Visible Minorities

- Recent immigrants are choosing to live in Ancaster in greater numbers and will probably overtake Stoney Creek as the community with the second highest proportion of recent immigrants by the next census. However, due to Ancaster's smaller population, the raw number of recent immigrants is still relatively low in Ancaster, standing at 660 in 2006.
- Ancaster's cultural diversity is also increasing at a rapid pace, with Ancaster now having the second largest proportion of its population identifying with a visible minority group (10%), only lower than Hamilton (17%).

Incomes and Poverty

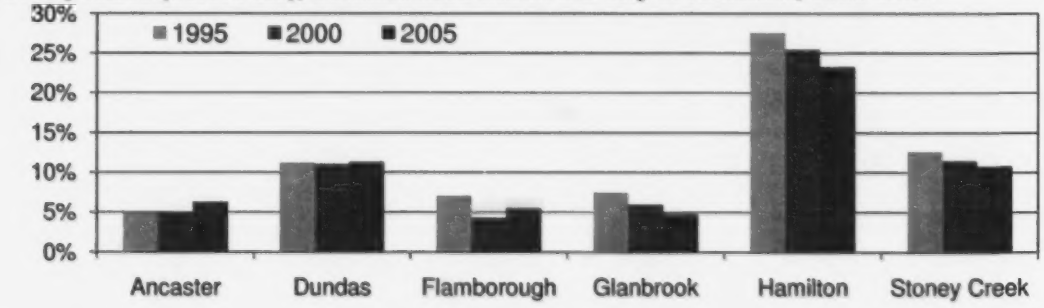
- Ancaster is the wealthiest community in the City of Hamilton, with a median income over $37,000 in 2006.

Median Individual Income, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



- While the poverty rate is relatively low in Ancaster, it is the only community with an increase since the 1996 census (standing at 6% in 2006), and over 2,000 Ancaster residents are living on incomes below the poverty line.
- The poverty rate for young children is slightly higher than for seniors but both are lower than the rate for the general population, indicating that single adults are a large proportion of the lower income population in Ancaster.

Poverty Rates (before tax), Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



To read the full Community Profile for Ancaster and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit: http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles

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Dundas

Children and Seniors

- Dundas has both the highest concentration of seniors and the lowest proportion of children.
- Dundas has the second smallest family size in the City, at 1.1 children at home per family in 2006.
- Unlike most other communities, Dundas has a higher poverty rate among seniors (11%) than among its young children (9%).
- Dundas is tied with Stoney Creek for the second highest proportion of seniors living alone in the city, standing at 21% in 2006.

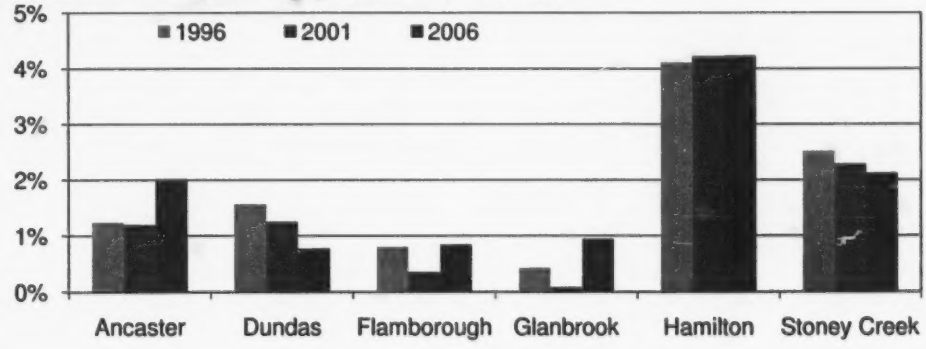
Female Lone Parents

- Dundas has the second highest proportion of single moms at 11%, after Hamilton (18%), a number which has been relatively stable since 1996.

Immigration

- Dundas currently attracts immigrants at a lower rate than other communities. The proportion of recent immigrants in particular is the lowest in the City of Hamilton this proportion is decreasing (0.8% in 2006 down from 1.6% in 1996).

Recent Immigrants (arriving to Canada in the previous five years), Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



Population Growth

- The aging of the population and the low immigration rates combine to make Dundas the second slowest growing community in City of Hamilton (average of 0.8% per year).

Incomes and Poverty

- Dundas remains among the wealthier communities in the city, with its median income of over $32,000 almost tied for second with Flamborough.
- Yet it also tied for the second highest overall poverty rate, standing at 11% in 2006. This indicates a larger gap between the rich and poor in Dundas than in other parts of the City of Hamilton.

To read the full Community Profile for Dundas and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit: http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles

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Flamborough

Children and Seniors

- The Flamborough population is still relatively young, with the highest proportion of children and the lowest proportion of senior in the City of Hamilton.
- Flamborough continues to be tied with Ancaster for the largest family size in the city, at 1.2 children at home per family in 2006.
- There was a larger percentage drop in the number of youngest children (aged 0-4) from 2001-2006 than in any other community.
- All the senior age groups saw faster growth in the 2001-2006 period in Flamborough than the average for the City of Hamilton.
- Flamborough was tied with Ancaster for the lowest percentage of seniors living alone, standing at 17% in 2006.

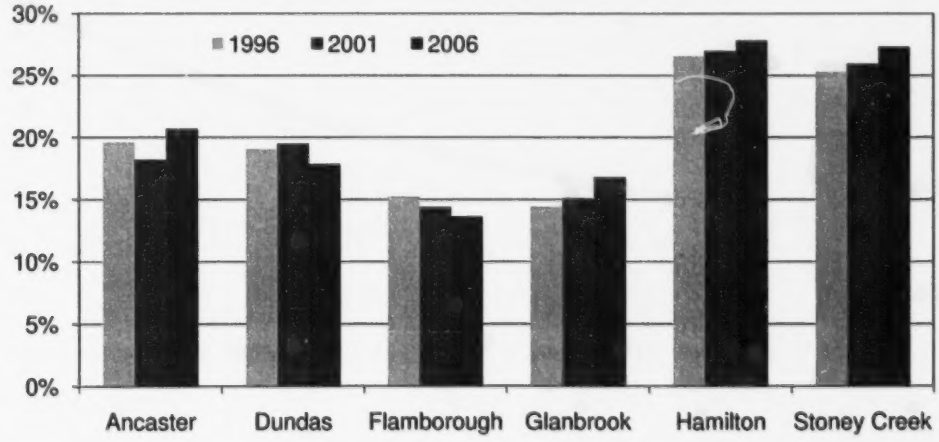
Female Lone Parents

- Flamborough's proportion of families led by single moms (7% in 2006) was the second lowest in the city, and has been relatively stable since 1996.

Immigration and Visible Minorities

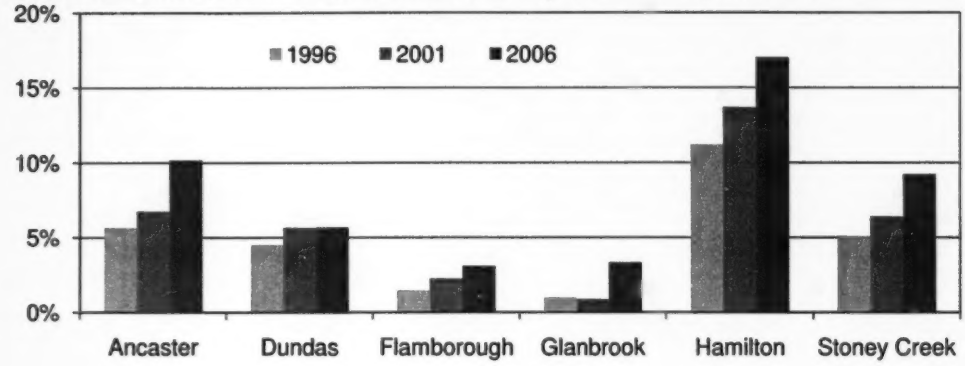
- Flamborough has the lowest proportion of immigrants in Hamilton, at 14% and this proportion has been steadily decreasing since 1996.

Immigrants, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



- While the number of recent immigrants is still very low at 330 in 2006, the number is almost three times what it was in 2001.
- The visible minority population has more than doubled in Flamborough, going from 510 in 1996 to 1,205 in 2006.

Visible Minorities, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



Population Growth

- Flamborough is currently the third largest community with over 38,000 residents.
- Flamborough is among the faster growing communities in the City of Hamilton with an average growth of almost 2% per year, higher than the Ontario average (1.3%).
- Most of the growth is concentrated in the Waterdown area, where new homes are being built at a rapid pace. In contrast, the westernmost part of rural Flamborough has experienced a decline in its population.

Incomes and Poverty

- Flamborough continues to be among the wealthier communities in the city, with its median income of just over $33,000 in second place after Ancaster.
- As a result, its poverty rate is quite low at 5%, although a significant number of people (over 2,000 in 2006) are still living on incomes below the poverty line.
- At 7%, the child poverty rate is higher than the general population.

To read the full Community Profile for Flamborough and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit: http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles

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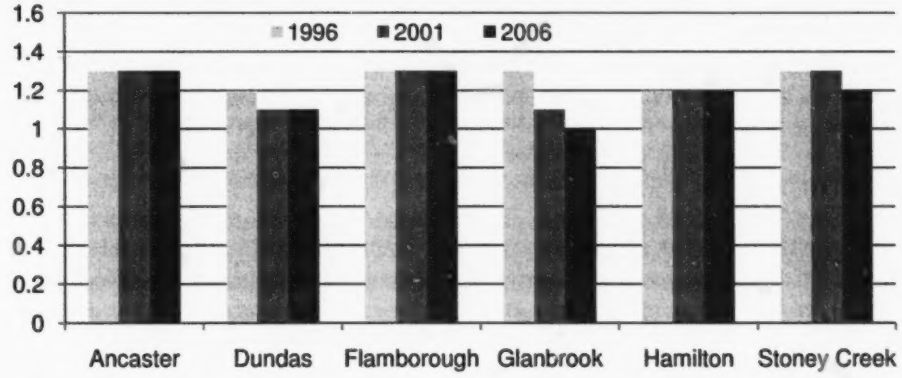
Glanbrook

Children and Seniors

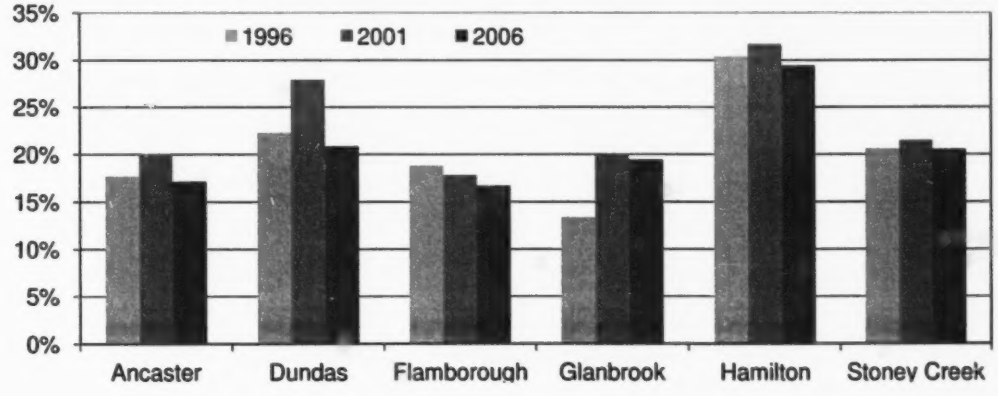
- The growth in the youngest age groups (0-14) is higher in Glanbrook than the average for the City of Hamilton. Yet the number of children per family has decreased steadily since 1996 from tied for 1st place to now in last place at one child at home per family.

Number of Children Living at Home Per Family, 1996-2001



- Due to its small population Glanbrook has the smallest numbers of seniors, but the proportion is the second highest after Dundas. The senior age groups are growing faster than the child age groups.
- The proportion of seniors living alone has jumped significantly since 1996, standing at 540 persons in 2006. Glanbrook was the only community to experience and increase in the proportion of seniors living alone from 1996 to 2006, going up from 13% in 1996 to 19% in 2006.

Seniors Living Alone, Communities within City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



Female Lone Parents

- Glanbrook has the lowest proportion of female lone parent-led families in the City of Hamilton (6% in 2006).

Immigration

- Glanbrook has seen increases in its population of immigrants, including recent immigrants, although the numbers and proportion of the population are still relatively low (145 recent immigrants in 2006, representing 0.9% of the population).

Incomes and Poverty

- Glanbrook sits in the middle of communities in the city in terms of median individual income. The median income in Glanbrook was over $31,000 in 2006, $6,000 less than Ancaster's and $7,000 more than Hamilton's.
- Its poverty rate is tied for the lowest in the City of Hamilton (with Flamborough), sitting at 5% in 2006 (down from 7% in 1996). The number of people living on incomes below the poverty line however has not decreased as significantly, and stood at just over 750 persons in 2006.

To read the full Community Profile for Glanbrook and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit: http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles

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Hamilton

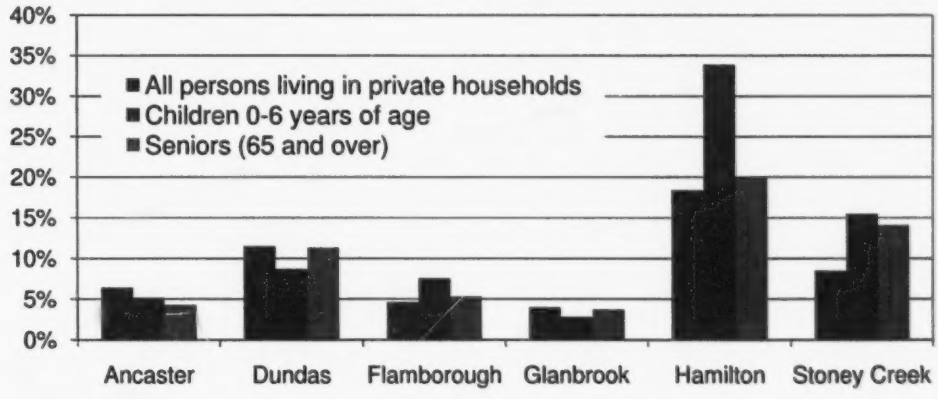
Children and Seniors

- The Community of Hamilton's proportion of children and seniors is ranked in the middle of all the communities with the city.
- While there has been a decrease in the number of young children (not as great as in Flamborough, however), the number of children at home per family has remained constant at 1.2 while in some of the other faster growing communities this number has decreased.
- Hamilton's population of seniors has increased since 1996, but not as rapidly as in other Communities. The large population of soon-to-be-seniors (55-64 year olds), however, indicates that the senior population in Hamilton is set to grow even faster, assuming they continue to live in this community.
- The proportion of seniors living alone is highest in Hamilton at 29%, but the number of persons in this situation has remained relatively constant (hovering at just under 15,000 seniors).

Incomes and Poverty

- Hamilton has the lowest median income of all the communities at just over $24,000 in 2006.
- While the poverty rate in Hamilton continues to be the highest in the city, it has dropped since 1996 going from 28% to 23% in 2006. The number of people this represents is still much too high, at almost 75,000 people (more people that in all of Stoney Creek)
- The poverty rate for young children is double the rate for the general population, standing at 34% in 2006.

Poverty Rates (before tax) for selected groups, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 2006



Female Lone Parents

- Hamilton has the highest proportion of families led by female lone parents in its population, standing at 18% in 2006 (up from 16% in 1996).

Immigration and Visible Minorities

- Hamilton also has the highest proportion of residents born outside of Canada at 28%, but this is only 1% higher that the proportion of immigrants in Stoney Creek.
- The proportion of recent immigrants is more clearly highest in Hamilton at 4.2% in 2006 (the next highest Community was Stoney Creek with 2.1%). But the proportion of recent immigrants in Hamilton has not grown in the 1996-2006 period.
- Hamilton is also the most diverse community within the city with 17% of its population belonging to a visible minority group.

Population Growth

- The overall growth rate for the Community of Hamilton has been the lowest in the city, averaging just over 0.2% per year. Not only is this low compared to other parts of the city, the rate has been much less constant that in most other communities. Following a period of relatively high growth in 1996-2001, Hamilton experienced a drop in population from 2001-2006.
- The province's new Places to Grow Act may increase the population growth in the Community of Hamilton in the coming years, as intensification within currently built-up areas is favoured by this legislation.

To read the full Community Profile for Glanbrook and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit:
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Stoney Creek

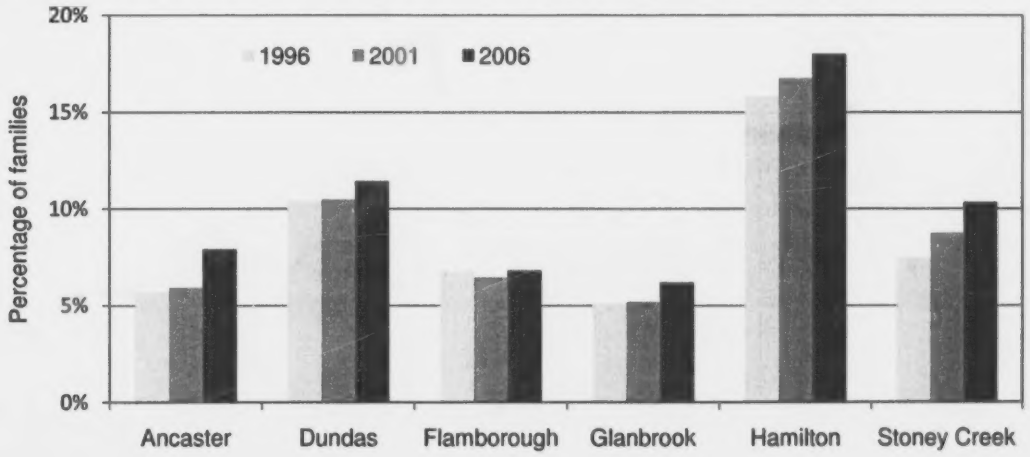
Children and Seniors

- In Stoney Creek, as elsewhere in the city, the senior age groups are growing faster than the child age groups.
- The growth in the youngest age groups (0-14) is higher in Stoney Creek than the average for the City of Hamilton, while the average number of children at home per family in Stoney Creek has decreased slightly to 1.2 children per family, tied for second place in the city.
- The seniors' population is growing rapidly, but Stoney Creek has the second lowest proportion of seniors (at 14% in 2006).
- The proportion of seniors living alone is now tied for second with Dundas (at 21% in 2006).

Female Lone Parents

- The proportion of female lone parent-led families in Stoney Creek has been increasing in every census year since 1996 and could overtake Dundas within the next 5 or ten years as the community with the second highest proportion of female lone parents in City of Hamilton.

Female Lone Parents, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



Immigration

- Stoney Creek is almost tied with Hamilton for the highest proportion of residents born outside of Canada. Yet the proportion of recent immigrants choosing to live in Stoney Creek has been steadily decreasing (from 2.5% in 1996 to 2.1% in 2006).

Incomes and Poverty

- Stoney Creek has the second lowest median income at just over $30,000, although this is still over $6,000 more than the median income in the Community of Hamilton.
- The poverty rate in Stoney Creek has been decreasing, now standing at 11%. This represents over 6,600 persons living on incomes below the poverty line.
- The poverty rate for both children (15%) and seniors (14%) are both higher than for the general population.

To read the full Community Profile for Stoney Creek and similar reports for the other five communities in the City of Hamilton, including maps and additional graphs and data, please visit: http://sprc.hamilton.on.ca/Reports.php#profiles